



Beltway Plaza
Business, p.8



Artist Studio
Tour, p.12

Moechella: Franklin Park's Party with a Purpose: Vote!

by René Sewell-Rayson

The soundcheck was a musical cacophony from the parking garage as the drums and guitars competed to find their pitch. The TOB Band made their final adjustments from the back of the flat-bed. The truck began its pied-piper drive through Franklin Park as the go-go beat began its syncopated siren call to residents to follow them to the Beltway Plaza parking lot behind Target.

The event on Saturday, September 26, was billed as a Get Out the Vote/Stop the Violence/Stop Evictions/Census mashup organized by community activist LaWann Stribling of Strib'ble District, LLC. The event was a way to reach the untapped youth vote but appealed to anyone who could move to the pulsating beat. Census workers moved through the crowd asking, "Have you been counted?" Voter registrants were



PHOTO BY RIC GORDON

From left, Councilmember Rodney Roberts, Carla Johns and LaWann Stribling attend Moechella.

equally inquisitive: "Are you registered to vote in this important election?" A petition circulated asking Greenbelters who

rent their homes, "What do you want for our city?" A CASA representative moved through the crowd passing out literature.

The event had been scheduled for the clinic grounds of Franklin Park. As the theme for the event evolved to include rent control, Franklin Park opted not to host the event. Stribling thanks Greenbelt Police Chief Richard Bowers and Lt. Jermaine Gullidge for their efforts in securing the last-minute venue at Beltway Plaza.

A number of politicians, representing local and state government, spoke. Greenbelt Councilmember Rodney Roberts spoke passionately about the need for recreational facilities for the 10,000 current residents of Franklin Park and the proposed construction of additional units for more residents. He circulated a

See MOECHELLA, page 7

Drum Circle Marks Equinox, Celebrates Life and Wellness

by Allison Mollenkamp

The sound of drums floated through the evening air at a local pavilion last week. Over a dozen people gathered to honor the fall equinox with a drum circle led by Katy Gaughan.

The circle was part of a series of programs called Drumming for Wellness Community Drum

Circles. Gaughan is offering the program in conjunction with Heavenly Well, whose acupuncture and massage practitioners, Renée Cooper and Julia Shapiro, have an office on Ivy Lane in Greenbelt.

Gaughan got her start in community drumming in the

Malcolm X Drum Circle in Washington's Meridian Hill Park. She said she learned from many teachers to become a drum circle facilitator, "which is about taking all these people, taking all the sounds," Gaughan said. "But actually, it's taking it to another level with the musicality of it."

Gaughan spent much of the evening's circle in the middle of all the drummers, guiding them through different beats and tempos. She channeled soaring energy into the circle, waving her arms and jumping to the music. "Tonight is really about

See DRUMMING, page 6



PHOTO BY ALLISON MOLLENKAMP

From left, Reese Aguilar and Katy Gaughan play at the Drumming for Wellness Circle on September 22.

Election 2020

Washington and Williams Sponsor Election Info Forum

by Kathleen Gallagher

Este artículo está disponible en español en nuestra página web www.greenbeltnewsreview.com.

On Tuesday, September 15 two of Greenbelt's State Delegates, Alonzo Washington and Nicole Williams, co-hosted an election information forum featuring longtime Prince George's County's Elections Administrator Alisha Alexander. Washington and Williams both addressed concerns voters had following the primary election and potential problems and confusion regarding the general election as well. Washington cited Governor Larry Hogan's decision to send out applications for mail-in ballots rather than the ballots themselves, as had been done for the primary, as one current problem causing confusion.

Alexander started out by describing this year's election as "a massive undertaking" compared with prior ones because the

county is essentially running at least two elections at once: one in person, with both early voting and Election Day voting, and another by mail.

At that time, in mid-September, they had already sent out about 140,000 applications for ballots. She confirmed that many people are confused. Many have called to ask when they should open their ballot and fill it out. But it's not a ballot, it's an application, she said, and their message is to open everything from the Board of Elections as soon as it's received.

Ballots

Alexander more than once stressed the importance of voters reading directions once they receive their ballot and, in particular, of being sure to complete the required signatures. She said

See FORUM, page 4

City's Dog Park Reopened With New Rules and Fees

by Matthew Arbach



PHOTO COURTESY CITY OF GREENBELT

Greenbelt Dog Park is now open.

As of Saturday, September 26 at 7 a.m., the city's Dog Park, located on Hanover Drive off Hanover Parkway, has reopened. This was the result of a vote by the Greenbelt City Council at their Wednesday, September 23 worksession, where they decided on a new set of rules, permit requirements and a new fee structure for city permits.

Users of the Park must now obtain both a county pet license and a city permit, to be renewed annually. The county license can be obtained at county offices by appointment only, due to the pandemic. The city permit can be applied for at the Animal Shelter, where applications and fees are now being accepted, also by appointment only. The city hopes to make it possible to obtain both the license and permit at the Shelter at some point in the fu-

ture when a portal can be created with the county system.

The city's permit fees are now \$10 per resident household and \$30 per non-resident household. This will cover all dogs in the household but each dog requires a separate application. The fee will cover the requisite dog tags that must be visible on the dog while at the Park. These tags would be renewed each year. Each owner is allowed only two dogs at the Park at any one time. The county license fee is \$10 for a neutered dog and \$25 for an unaltered dog.

Both the county license and the city permit require a current rabies certificate for each dog, with the permit also requiring a current distemper certificate along with proof from a licensed

See DOG PARK, page 9

What Goes On

Monday, October 5
8 p.m. Regular City Council Meeting, rescheduled from September 28
Wednesday, October 7
8 p.m. Council Worksession: County Executive Alsobrooks (tentative)
All meetings are virtual. See the meetings calendar at greenbeltdmd.gov for agendas and information on public participation in these meetings.

Letters to the Editor

Photo Contest Fan

Thanks to the Zevallos Family and the News Review for the great article and photos in the September 17 issue. Somehow, in my pandemic daze, I hadn't realized that the Labor Day photo contest would go on virtually. It's always been my favorite must-see event. Congratulations to all the winners, and to all the Greenbelt photographers who send in weekly photos of flowers and wildlife. Every issue is a treat.

Kathleen McFarland

Lake Park to Lose Many Trees . . . Soon!

Have read in these pages that the Lake parking lot will soon be under renovation; the job has gone out to bid. Certainly, there are some good aspects of the plan. New asphalt, a more planet-friendly storm water management system are two positives.

In viewing the plan, scheduled for removal are the pine trees that line the edge of the parking lot, at the edge of the park. On a recent visit, I walked this 'Alley of Green' and stopped counting their number after 30. Thirty or more trees. Their diameters are 8 to 10 inches and were planted in the late '60s or early '70s. Mr. Giese, what say you?

Sure, among this 'green belt' of pine are a few leaners, and maybe they should be eliminated. But NOT the wholesale leveling of this blanket of shade. Please. These trees also hide the power feeder lines that enter the city, from Kenilworth Avenue, then up the hill through part of the lake park. Cutting the trees down would expose the lines; now, one hardly knows they are there.

So, why do this? To appeal to the 'new and shiny thing'? New trees will be planted in their place, but how long until they mature? By then, the city planning staff will have retired down county; the architects will have closed shop, their drafting tables tossed to the curb, like so much useless melamine.

Councilmember Rodney Roberts has been against the cutting down of this 'belt of green' since day one; thank you, sir.

City of Greenbelt decision makers, please re-evaluate this move. It was a good idea to plant 'em – why go backwards?

Mark Hanyok

Heroic Proposition

Ink has long since dried on the letter council decided to write opposing use of Greenbelt Park as a location for President Trump's National Garden of American Heroes. While the decision itself is probably quite popular, I can't shake the feeling that council's September 14 discussion of it should have at least considered the possibility that such a project can protect, advance or be modified to advance economic development in our city.

First, we are a city under encroachment by four – four! – major transportation projects: BW Parkway Widening, 495-270 Widening, SC Maglev and DC HyperLoop. Could a new federal commitment to Greenbelt Park help protect our city from unwanted digging in, around and under the park?

Second, the area across from the entrance to the park is already a commercial area. However, instead of the "small-ball" of potential gas stations and convenience stores, could this project transform that area and its existing high quality hotels and restaurants into a dynamic tourist attraction?

Finally, we are a city whose own history is replete with American heroes. Greenbelt itself was the brainchild and pet project of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: he who led our country out of the Great Depression and to victory over fascism in World War II, and she an outspoken advocate for civil rights and a driving force behind the UN's Universal Declaration of Human Rights. How many American cities have a local paper that can boast of a victory in the U.S. Supreme Court for the First Amendment? And don't forget Muhammad Ali. "The Greatest Fighter of all Time" once trained in Greenbelt Park! Could President Trump's

current list of American heroes become more acceptable to us through the inclusion of others with a Greenbelt connection?

Unfortunately, council's discussion on September 14 didn't take up any of these questions. Perhaps there are good reasons for this, but perhaps there aren't.

The FY2021 adopted budget includes \$130,500 for Economic Development. Most people would agree that those resources should always be forward-looking and alert to new opportunities. Therefore, my concern with the September 14 council discussion is that it didn't evaluate the National Garden of American Heroes as an opportunity, even if its rejection was fully warranted for other reasons.

Jonathan Taylor

Editor's Note: Visit the News Review Archives for the June 9, 2016, issue where Ali's 1976 training session is recalled: greenbeltnewsreview.com/issues/GNR20160609.pdf.



PHOTO BY MARK HANYOK

These pine trees that line the edge of the parking lot at Buddy Attick Park are scheduled for removal.

Se Habla Español

Vaya a nuestra página web greenbeltnewsreview.com para ver artículos en español.

See our website, greenbeltnewsreview.com, for articles in Spanish.

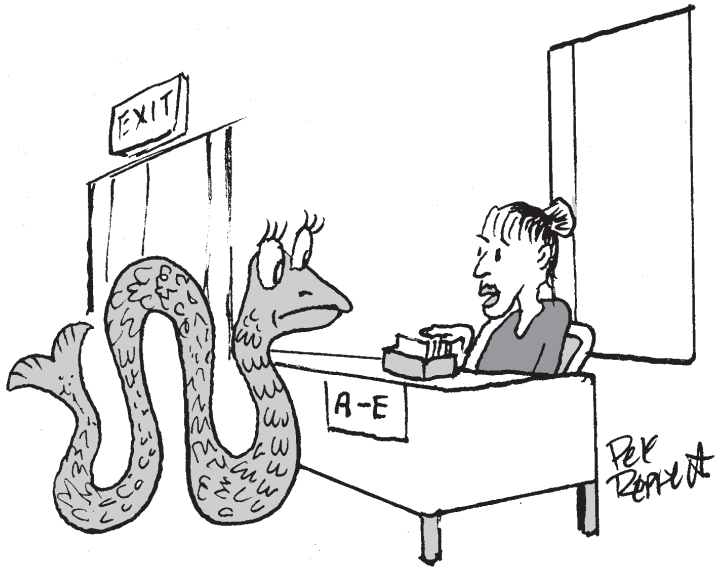


2020 Parade Winners!



PHOTO BY JAKI DEMAREST

Winners of the Only Entry Award at the it's-not-happenin' Labor Day Festival of 2020, from left: Tom Jones, Johanna Goderre Jones, Stephen Duda and Alan Duda, who marched the parade route on Labor Day in full regalia.



PERHAPS IF YOU SPENT LESS TIME AT THE SHORE YOU'D KNOW YOU HAVE TO REGISTER TO VOTE, CHESSIE!

(Deadline to register to vote is October 13)

Corrections

The box of Key Dates for Voting in last week's issue contained an error on the deadline to request a mail-in ballot. All applications for ballots must be returned to the Prince George's County Board of Elections Office no later than 5 p.m. on Monday, October 20. To ensure receipt of a ballot in a timely manner, the Board of Elections highly recommends that ballot applications be submitted much earlier than the deadline.

See page 4 for an updated list of ballot drop-off box locations near Greenbelt.



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Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 -8 p.m.
Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.

Community Events

At the Library

The annual One Maryland One Book program returns with a series of virtual events focused on New York Times bestselling author Lisa See’s *The Island of Sea Women*. This statewide program, hosted by Maryland Humanities, the Maryland Center for the Book and locally by the Prince George’s County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS), provides Prince Georgians with an opportunity to celebrate their love of reading with book discussions and a special author event. Lisa See will appear for a virtual conversation with the library’s CEO Roberta Phillips on Sunday, October 4 at 7 p.m.

The library also features local authors on a weekly basis through the Antoine & Friends: Local Children’s Authors Series and Local Authors Series every Saturday at 10 a.m. All programs are on PGCMLS YouTube and made possible by the PGCMLS Foundation.

Customers with questions are invited to call Ask a Librarian at 240-455-5451 or email askalibrarian@pgcmls.info with questions. Library staff are available by phone Tuesdays 1 to 8 p.m., Wednesdays through Fridays 1 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays 1 to 5 p.m.

Educational Resources

The library supports learning from home with a wide array of online educational resources for students in grades K to 12. The library recently launched the new Resources for Learning from Home portal at pgcmls.info/school. The portal complements the library’s Homework Support Suite to enhance the virtual learning experience for local students.

All Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS) students have access to the library’s online resources with their LINK card number. When accessing the online library and prompted for a library card number, students should use their nine-digit LINK card number with PGCPS in front (for example, PGCPS100100100). No library card sign-up is required. Students’ pin numbers are the last four digits of their LINK card number. Adults may register for a free virtual library card at pgcmls.info.

Requesting Books

Hold requests for up to 50 items can be made via catalog. pgcmls.info/polaris or 240-455-5451. Patrons are notified when the items they requested are available so they can schedule a pickup appointment. Pickup by pedestrians or by bicyclists must be indicated when scheduling a pickup time. All patrons picking up items must wear a mask.

Returned items must be placed in the returned book slot to the right of the lower entrance. Items need to be in quarantine for seven days before they are checked in and processed, so they may temporarily appear as overdue in patrons’ accounts. The library is now fine-free: all existing overdue fines have been waived.

Virtual Recreation

Greenbelt Recreation’s fall classes and special events are online via the Virtual Recreation Center. Go to greenbeltnmd.gov/recreation to access a wide range of online activities, including classes, video tutorials, sing-alongs and more.

Visit Art Studios

The Greenbelt Recreation Arts program will sponsor a fall Open Studio Tour on Sunday, October 4 starting at 1 p.m. A series of 10- to 15-minute studio visits will take place live on Instagram. Artists in residence at the Community Center, plus additional Greenbelt artists, will welcome guests to their creative workspaces and share their artwork. Several artists offer online shopping opportunities and accept appointments for individual viewing and consultation. The full line-up, including links, will be posted next week on the Greenbelt Virtual Recreation Center, greenbeltnmd.gov/recreation. For more information, email ndewald@greenbeltnmd.gov.

Free Student Meals At Greenbelt Schools

Meal pickup and delivery will be free for all Prince George’s County Public Schools (PGCPS) students through Thursday, December 31. All schools in Greenbelt serve as meal distribution sites. Students picking up meals do not need identification. Parents and guardians should bring a student ID or most recent report card. It is possible to collect for others by bringing the appropriate student numbers.

Multi-day meals are available for pickup Mondays and Wednesdays between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Visit the PGCPS website, pgcps.org, for more information and a list of delivery locations.

Toastmasters Meet Online Wednesdays

The Greenbelt Toastmasters Club has gone virtual. Those interested in improving communication or leadership skills are invited to join online or by phone every first, third and fifth Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Find details for joining remotely at greenbelt.toastmastersclubs.org.

Purple Light Nights

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Show support for Purple Light Nights by letting a purple light shine on a porch, business or windowsill to remember the men and women who have lost their lives to domestic violence and those who have survived and bring hope to those who are still being abused.

Shine a light with the Greenbelt Police Department and let the abusers know that domestic violence has no place in our community.

Come to the Greenbelt Police Station, 550 Crescent Road, on Thursday, October 1 from 5 to 9 p.m. to pick up a purple light bulb.



Community Drum Circles for Wellness

The wellness team of Greenbelt’s Heavenly Well Acupuncture and Massage, Julia Shapiro and Renée Cooper, is sponsoring Drumming for Wellness Community Drum Circles with Katy Gaughan to boost participants’ spirits and immune system for the upcoming winter.

Join the drum circles to connect with community and support wellness on any or all dates: Saturday, October 10; Wednesday, October 14; Saturday, October 24; and Wednesday, October 28. No drumming experience is necessary.

The drum circles will be held in a local open-air glass pavilion. Participants will be required to wear masks and practice social distancing. Drummers are encouraged to bring their own drums and sanitized drums will be available. The location has free parking, is a 15-minute walk from Greenbelt Metro and has access to restrooms. Space is limited and registration is required. There is a fee. The address will be given upon registration. To register go to heavenlywell.com.

Greenbelt Talks

Greenbelt Access Television (GATe) invites participation in a new video series, Greenbelt Talks. Residents of Greenbelt – young, old and in-between – can voice their thoughts and opinions on issues of local and national importance. It’s easy. Using a cell phone, click on video, face front and center, and talk to GATe and the community for up to one minute. Then, email the video to GATe, greenbeltaccess@gmail.com. Watch for these videos to appear on the city’s public access channel and social media. It is that simple and easy.

First topic: The Notorious RBG, Ruth Bader Ginsberg. Deadline for submission is Friday, October 16. Future topics will focus on the maglev, Black Lives Matter and Why Did You Choose to Live in Greenbelt?

Some tips for recording:

1. Avoid dark or noisy surroundings.
2. No advertisements.
3. Avoid bad language. This is public access TV and FCC rules apply.
4. Keep the video to one minute or less.

This is not part of the Rose Award Program. For more information on the Rose Awards, visit greenbeltaccessstv.org/rose-award.

Charge up those phones and start talking – GATe wants to hear from all Greenbelters.

Meals on Wheels Far Short of Funding Goal

Meals on Wheels of College Park provides those in need in Prince George’s County, including Greenbelt, with a food delivery service. Since the pandemic began, they have nearly doubled their client base, straining their resources. After launching a GoFundMe campaign in July, the organization has received community support of less than \$12,000, far short of its goal of \$500,000.

Funds are needed to purchase new kitchen appliances and supplies to feed those affected by COVID-19. Learn more or contribute at charity.gofundme.com/en/campaign/fund-us-to-feed-them.

ilyAIMY Presents Live Virtual Concert

On Friday, October 2 from 8:30 to 11:30 p.m. ilyAIMY will livestream a concert on the New Deal Café Facebook page facebook.com/thenewdealcafe. ilyAIMY combines award-winning songwriting, tight male/female harmonies, signature intricate slap-style guitar work, ukulele, djembe and an eclectically humorous stage show, and mixes genres from rock to folk to soul to bluegrass with flavors as varied as jazz and hip hop.



Children’s Art Classes At Greenbelt Recreation

Greenbelt Recreation has a full fall schedule of online children and teen art classes. Classes range from two to six meetings, so try out something small if worried about adding another item to a child’s busy day.

Art Explorers Club: Maryland Wildlife, taught by Rachel Cross, starts on Thursday, October 15 and runs for five weeks. Participants will make art as they learn about local animals and their native habitat.

Leah Cohen will teach a series of Visionary Art Workshops, each just two meetings. The next workshop, Spirit Animals, starts on Monday, October 12. Participants will learn about the alebrijes, or spirit animals, of Oaxaca and make one of their own.

Other children’s art classes teach puppetry, polymer clay, printmaking and illustration. Teen classes include painting, sewing and polymer clay jewelry. For full class listings go to greenbeltnmd.gov/recreation, and click on fall classes.

No October Meeting

The Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board will not meet in October.



Monarch butterfly caterpillar

GATe GREENBELT ACCESS TELEVISION Friday October 2 - Thursday October 8		
PROGRAM SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE		CONNECT WITH GATe ON  
7 am	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
8 am	Democracy Now!	• Repeat of Yesterday's Program
9 am	Utopia Film Festival ★ Selected Films • 2019	• Together We Will Bring the Shad Back • Medicine in the Mind • Doctor C
11 am	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
SAT/SUN	Member Spotlight	• GATe Community Producers
12 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
1 pm	Science Bowl PGCPS	• Benjamin Tasker v Robert Goddard • MLK v Thomas Johnson
2 pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
3 pm	Utopia Film Festival ★ Selected Films • 2019	• Together We Will Bring the Shad Back • Medicine in the Mind • Doctor C
5 pm	Science Bowl PGCPS	• Benjamin Tasker v Robert Goddard • MLK v Thomas Johnson
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6 pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
7 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
8 pm	Utopia Film Festival ★ Selected Films • 2019	• Together We Will Bring the Shad Back • Medicine in the Mind • Doctor C
10 pm	Democracy Now!	• Today's Program • Independent News
11 pm	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
12 am	Greenbelt Newsreel	• or Selections From the GATe Archive
WATCH US on VERIZON Fios 19 or COMCAST 77 STREAMING LIVE at www.greenbeltaccessstv.org/channel-live-stream		

AKA Sorority Amps Up Zoom Voter Engagement Efforts

In support of the upcoming 2020 General Election, the Psi Epsilon Omega (PEO) Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority (AKA), Incorporated® is hosting a variety of voter education and engagement activities. This call to action is aligned with AKA's national efforts to recognize the political prowess and leadership of Black women to create positive sustainable change.

"We are specifically targeting residents in Laurel, Bowie and Greenbelt, which are the communities that PEO serves. We are encouraging people to register to vote and to make a voting plan," said Benita A. Swindell, president of the PEO Chapter. "In addition to voter education and engagement, we also have to consider safety, which is why PEO has shifted all of its activities to virtual platforms."

On September 17, the sorority hosted a virtual voter registration drive, Know Before You Go: Understanding Your Rights

City Notes

At the Community Center, arts staff are planning to hold an October roku workshop at the Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center (GAFC) and an online Open Studio Tour. Therapeutic Recreation facilitated meal delivery for 35 seniors and a Golden Age Club meeting.

Museum researchers answered queries about the Co-op grocery store, the Old Greenbelt Theatre and the Credit Union.

The Animal Shelter hosts a rabbit, nine cats and two fostered kittens. One cat was adopted. Park Rangers discouraged a motorbike interruption of a soccer practice at Schrom Hills Park.

Horticulture/Parks planted fall annuals and bulbs. Refuse/Recycling collected 26.67 tons of refuse and 10.23 tons of recyclables. Sustainability/Environmental increased the Food Scraps Drop-Off Program to 146 households, serving 305 people.

Fleet Maintenance prepared one vehicle for snow removal. At GAFC, building maintenance reinstalled fitness equipment.

CARES' Liz Park, chair of the Maryland Association of Youth Service Bureaus, spoke at the Maryland Legislature Joint Committee on Children, Youth and Families, advocating increased mental-health funding.

Worship with us at

Greenbelt Baptist Church

Biblical
Confessional
Reformed
Gospel-Centered

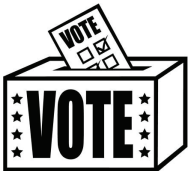
Join us OUTSIDE Sundays at 10:00am /Wednesdays (online) at 7:00pm

www.greenbeltbaptist.org
[Instagram/Facebook/YouTube](#)

www.greenbeltbaptist.org
301-474-4212
@GreenbeltBaptist

at the Polls. Several hundred people joined a Zoom discussion featuring Aisha Braveboy, State's Attorney for Prince George's County. She shared information on voting rights for formerly incarcerated individuals, immigrants and anyone with questions about their ability to legally vote in the November elections. "The best way to make sure your vote is not counted is to not vote," Braveboy told the group.

In partnership with the Women's Equity Center and Action Network (WE CAN), PEO will hold a virtual writing party on Saturday, October 3. Members of both organizations will write letters to persons in eight states asking them to vote in the upcoming election. Those interested in participating in this or other WE CAN activities can join via the WE CAN website (womensequity.org). PEO's activities are part of the national program, AKAs L.E.A.D. where members are encouraged to L.E.A.D. – Learn, Empower, Advocate and Decide – on legislative, public policy and social justice issues critical to Black women and the African American community. "As the premier Greek-lettered sorority established by African American college-educated women, it is critical that the community see us out front and taking the lead in these voter mobilization efforts," added Swindell.



Ballot Drop-off Box Locations Now & Soon

Este artículo está disponible en español en nuestra página web www.greenbeltnewsreview.com.

The Board of Elections is installing ballot drop-off boxes at multiple locations throughout the county. Some have already been installed; others will be put into service in the middle of October. Once installed, all drop boxes be available through Tuesday, November 3. Ballots must be dropped off by 8 p.m. on Tuesday, November 3.

The following ballot drop-box locations relatively close to Greenbelt are available now:

- Duval High School, 9880 Good Luck Road, Lanham
- High Point High School, 3601 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville
- Northwestern High School, 7000 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville
- The Pavilion at the University of Maryland, Xfinity Center, 8500 Paint Branch Drive, College Park
- Wayne K. Curry Sports and Learning Center, 8001 Sheriff Road, Landover

These locations will be available starting October 15-17:

- Eleanor Roosevelt High School, 7601 Hanover Parkway, Greenbelt
- FedEx Field, 1600 FedEx Way, Landover
- Glenn Dale Community Center, 11901 Glenn Dale Boulevard, Glenn Dale

This information is from the Prince George's County Board of Elections website.

FORUM continued from page 1

there is a drop-box at their office, and anyone with concerns can bring their ballot there (1100 Mercantile Lane, Suite 115A, Largo). By the end of the month, drop-boxes will be available in many other places, too.

Alexander explained that ballots could be requested and received by voters either by email or by mail; ballots cannot be returned by email. Since the Board of Elections scanners will not accept any regular printer paper, those ballots sent out to voters by email will not be able to be scanned by the Board's equipment and will need to be copied onto the appropriate paper. So far, the Board had received 12,000 ballots that would require copying, which provides another major task.

Alexander said she could not repeat enough times that people must request the ballot, which is different from the primary election.

In answer to a question, she said it would be possible for someone who had requested a mail ballot to change their mind and vote in person, but they would have to vote provisionally so it could be determined that there was not also a mail vote.

Asked if there is high risk of someone voting twice – by mail and in person – Alexander said there is not. She said there are many checks and balances on

voting twice, and there always have been.

Some advice follows from Alexander for those who hope to survive this year's election.

For those choosing to vote in person, whether by early voting or on Election Day, do so between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., which is the non-peak time.

Drop-boxes to receive mail-in ballots will be locked down at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, November 3, so do not go at the last minute.

People should not go to their usual polling place. They can go to any voting location in the county designated for voting and are not bound to a single location or precinct.

Alexander closed by saying the biggest problems that cause ballots to be disqualified are (1) they have not been signed in all the necessary places (don't forget to sign the back of the envelope!) and (2) they are not submitted on time. She said it's amazing how many people put their envelope in a mail box after the last collection of the day on Election Day so it cannot be legally counted. Be warned: about 6,000 ballots were rejected in this year's primary for that reason.



Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors
Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://www.facebook.com/mowattumc)
301-474-9410
Rev. Fay Lundin, Pastor
In person worship services cancelled for now.
Live streaming on our Facebook page @mowattumc.
10 a.m. Sunday mornings

The Bible Says...

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?
Psalm 27:1a



Sunday Worship Services
10a-11a ONLINE
MCFcc.org/online

Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

3215 Powder Mill Road, Adelphi
Phone: 301-937-3666 www.pbuuc.org
Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community
October 4 10 a.m.
"Food and Culture"
Rev. Rachel Christensen; with Worship Associate John Barr
What are the elements of our personal and American culture that shapes our choices in food? And how do our choices in food shape our relationships, our ways of being together? ONLINE ONLY. Streaming info at <http://bit.ly/PBOct20>

Obituaries

The News Review publishes obituaries of Greenbelt residents, past or present.

You write it or we will if you prefer. We try to include information about participation in various activities and organizations, where the person lived and something about the family. A photograph and service information should be included. There is no charge.

Mishkan Torah Congregation

10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield
An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.
Friday evening services at 8:00pm
Saturday morning services at 10:00am
All services and activities are currently virtual
For further information, call (301) 474-4223 www.mishkantorah.org
Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

Greenbelt Community Church

Welcome Rev. Curt DeMars-Johnson

Check us out on Facebook Live
this Sunday at 10:15 AM
<https://www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD>

1 Hillside Road 301-474-6171

ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

CHANGES DURING THE HEALTH EMERGENCY

All public Masses have been cancelled.
Please check our **website** for updates on how our parish is continuing to serve our community.

135 Crescent Rd.
www.sthughofgrenoble.org



"Every imperfect soul is self-centered and thinketh only of his own good. But as his thoughts expand a little he will begin to think of the welfare and comfort of his family. If his ideas still more widen, his concern will be the felicity of his fellow citizens; and if still they widen, he will be thinking of the glory of his land and of his race. But when ideas and views reach the utmost degree of expansion and attain the stage of perfection, then will he be interested in the exaltation of humankind."

— Abdu'l-Baha



Greenbelt Bahá'í Community
www.greenbeltbahais.org



City Information & Events

The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL- REGULAR MEETING

Monday,October 5, 2020, 8:00 p.m.

ORGANIZATION

Call to Order
Roll Call
Meditation and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
Consent Agenda – Approval of Staff Recommendations(Items on the Consent Agenda [marked by *] will be approved as recommended by staff, subject to removal from the Consent Agenda by Council.)
Approval of Agenda and Additions

COMMUNICATIONS

Presentations

- Sickie Cell Awareness Month Proclamation
- Proclamation Honoring Bob Zugby
- National Hispanic Heritage Month Proclamation

Petitions and Requests

(Petitions received at the meeting will not be acted upon by the City Council at this meeting unless Council waives its Standing Rules.)

Minutes of Council Meetings

Administrative Reports

Committee Reports

* Advisory Planning Board (APB) Report re: Royal Farms

LEGISLATION

- A Resolution to Authorize the Negotiated Purchase of FY 2021 Legal Services from Alexander & Cleaver PA at an estimated cost of \$205,000. - 2nd Reading, Adoption

OTHER BUSINESS

- FY21 Recognition Groups
- Hanover Parkway Bikeway Study
- Royal Farms Detailed Site Plan (DSP)
- Zoom Meeting Format
- Environmental Engineering Firms for Maglev
- Racial Equity Resolution/Ordinance
- Increased Crime on Lakecrest Drive/Adjacent Residential Areas
- Council Activities
- Council Reports
- *- Greenbelt Dog Park Rules and Procedures/Reopening
- *- Reappointments to Advisory Boards

MEETINGS-Scheduling of Future Meetings

COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE VIRTUAL Cablecast on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 and 996 and www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv

Resident participation: Information will be posted on Meetings Calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov

In advance the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email banderson@greenbeltmd.gov

VACANCIES ON BOARDS & COMMITTEES

Volunteer to serve on City Council Advisory Groups. There are currently vacancies on:

- Arts Advisory Board
- Board of Elections
- Forest Preserve Advisory Board
- Public Safety Advisory Committee
- Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
- Youth Advisory Committee

For more information call 301- 474-8000

Senior

GRAB AND GO MEALS

Hosted by Council Chair Todd M. Turner and the Prince George's County Department of Family Services. Meals provided by Martin's Catering for 4th District Senior Residents.

Friday, October 9 from 10:00-11:30 am

Greenbelt Community Center Parking Lot-15 Crescent Road

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN THRU MONDAY, OCTOBER 5 FROM 10 A 2PM BY CONTACTING ELIANA GAGLIOLO 240-542-2033

VIRTUAL MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER 5-9

Monday, October 5 at 8:00pm, **REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING** Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 & 996 and streaming on www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv

Tuesday, October 6 at 7:00pm **PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE** On the Agenda: Proposed Fair and Just Policing Act.

Wednesday, October 7 at 8:00pm (tentative) **WORKS SESSION w/County Executive Angela Alsobrooks** Virtual meeting will be shown on Verizon 21, Comcast 71 & 996 and streaming on www.greenbeltmd.gov/municipaltv

Thursday, October 8 at 7:30pm **COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY BOARD** On the Agenda: Pedestrian and Bicyclist Master Plan Update, Discussion of Pedestrian Paths and Cyclists, and Election of a Vice Chair

This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call 301-474-8000. For information on public participation for the virtual meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at www.greenbeltmd.gov.



Emergency Diaper Pick-Up

Need help with diapers? The Greenbelt Nursery Project is supporting needy Prince George's County families by distributing diapers on Thursday, October 15th, 2020. Parents are required to bring state-issued photo ID, each child's birth certificate, proof of Prince George's residency (mail from a federal, state, or local government agency which display their name and Prince George's county residential address) - if it is their first time attending the event. No walk-ups accepted. Please register online at <https://forms.gle/RQ3BW1DXSg28FWUS9>. Registration required. Time and location given upon submitted registration.

City of Greenbelt BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AND RECOVERY FUND

The Greenbelt Business Improvement and Recovery Fund was established to offer immediate financial assistance to local small businesses whose operations have been impacted by the Covid19 pandemic. This program will provide businesses with a grant for up to \$10,000. This is a working capital grant which means that funds can be used to support operating expenses related to business interruption, improvements and continuity. Applicants must meet eligibility guidelines and provide evidence of financial impact due to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Application Process:

The application process has been streamlined to expedite the review, selection and disbursement of grant funds. The process is as follows:

Businesses would be required to provide the following documentation:

- Completed application
- 2019 Income Statement or Business Tax Return (Form 4506-T)
- 2020 Interim Income Statement (January – June)
- 2019 Personal Tax Return (If filing a Schedule C)
- Business is in good standing with Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT)
- Proof of Employment



Apply at www.greenbeltmd.gov/recovery-fund

VISIT THE VIRTUAL RECREATION CENTER AT WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV/RECREATION FOR A LARGE VARIETY OF CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES!

WEED WARRIORS:

Invasive Plant Pull

Saturday, October 10 from 10 AM – 1 PM

Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent Road

Be a part of the community effort to remove invasive plant species from the environment at Buddy Attick Park. Volunteers will work with Public Works staff to remove invasive vines from native trees and to pull other invasive plant species. Masks will be required at all times.

Reminders:

- Bring a reusable water bottle
- Wear weather-appropriate clothing and closed-toe shoes
- Students: bring community-service forms
- Volunteers must register in order to participate

To Register: Contact Environmental Coordinator Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll at kdriscoll@greenbeltmd.gov

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

GREENBELT SCMAGLEV OPPOSITION TASK FORCE

The Greenbelt City Council approved the creation of the Greenbelt SCMAGLEV Opposition Task Force. The SCMAGLEV is a proposal for a Super Conducting Magnetic Levitation Rail System which would impact the City of Greenbelt.

The City is seeking citizens to participate on this task force with knowledge in the following areas: Environmental Engineering, Major Transportation Projects, Environmental Law, Social Justice and Community Advocacy.

The purpose of the task force is to lead opposition efforts including, identifying short and long term action strategies, review of environmental documents, community education, bridging partnerships with other advocacy groups and coordinating public relations materials.

If interested, please respond to the City Clerk, Bonita Anderson at banderson@greenbeltmd.gov by Monday, October 5.



SEEKING LIFEGUARDS!

The Greenbelt Aquatic & Fitness Center is now hiring lifeguards!

Apply now at www.greenbeltmd.gov/jobs



PRODUCE DISTRIBUTION

Thursday, October 15

1:00-3:00pm
Greenbelt Community Center
15 Cresecent Road
Ground Floor East- Located near the Roundabout and Flagpole.

FOLLOW @CITYOFGREENBELT

MUSIC BY MARIACHI LOS MENSAJEROS DEL SUR

CENSUS CELEBRATION

LAST CHANCE TO IMPACT FUNDING FOR YOUR COMMUNITY! Prizes and raffle entry for every completed Census!

\$250 RAFFLE PRIZE

OCTOBER 4, 2020 | 2PM - 4PM

BELTWAY PLAZA MALL INSIDE NEAR TJ MAXX

MASKS REQUIRED. PLEASE PRACTICE SOCIAL DISTANCING.

Gift Card for all who complete census at event!

OUTDOOR RECESS

Each session \$3

GREENBELT RECREATION

fun • fitness • friendship

Mondays & Fridays

Two sessions each day:
4:00-4:45pm
5:00-5:45pm

Greenbelt Youth Center Outdoor Court

Greenbelt Recreation is here to improve your e-learner's physical and mental health with our Outdoor Recess Program! Join us for a variety of outdoor activities to get moving after all that screen time. Online pre-registration by day is required. Class requires masks/face coverings and physical distancing for all participants. For Greenbelt residents, ages 6-12. Classes start October 5th.

Activity #: 432604-1 & 432604-2

Inclement Weather will cancel class. For more information contact aphelan@greenbeltmd.gov.

GREENBELT VIRTUAL OPEN STUDIO TOUR

Sunday, October 4, 1:00 - 3:30pm

Enjoy an afternoon of studio visits with local artists live on Instagram! Online shopping opportunities also available. The schedule and links are posted at www.greenbeltmd.gov/recreation.

FOR CITY INFORMATION, ACTIVITIES, SERVICES, MEETINGS AND MORE VISIT WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV!

DRUMMING continued from page 1



John Ford plays his new drum at the Drumming for Wellness Circle.

gathering to honor the equinox and to connect as community,” Gaughan said. “And to really support our own wellness.”

Gaughan decided to partner with Heavenly Well to use a pavilion space near their office so the drum circle could be held in a semi-outdoor space with social distancing and masks.

Drumming Benefits

Gaughan believes that drumming together can help activate the body to fight disease. Cooper, part of the Heavenly Well team, said the drum circle fits with her belief in different types of wellness.

“We are so stressed in our daily lives nowadays,” Cooper remarked. “Even before COVID-19, life is for many people a hamster wheel and many people are anxious, there’s a lot of people being depressed.”

Cooper added that drumming can help reduce anxiety. When she first tried drumming, she found it to be a joyful and fun experience.

“It was very invigorating participating last time for the first time for me,” Cooper said. “It was really amazing how much it circulates: it increases the circulation in your hands.” Cooper said the first drum circle in the series included many veterans of Gaughan’s other drum circles, but last week there were newcomers as well.

Getting in Sync

John Ford, of Bethesda, is in the early stages of his drumming and described his first time joining a drum circle. “It was exhilarating. It’s very interesting. Nice people, nice camaraderie with everyone,” Ford said. “When you’re new you’re not quite sure how to play along.”

Ford said he watches people with more experience and tries his best to mimic the beats they play. Last week was his second time attending one of Gaughan’s circles.

“I find that there’s an awful lot of freeform in these groups. You look around and people are playing sometimes different things. But I don’t think it really matters.”

Ford said he feels happier after the drum circles. He recently bought a used drum online that he can play at home as well as at circles. His advice for anyone looking to try drumming was simple: “Do it. Have fun. Don’t be too critical of yourself.”

Drumming for Wellness events continue through October. Registration on the Heavenly Well website (heavenlywell.com) is required to participate.

Allison Mollenkamp is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism reporting for the News Review.

PHOTO BY ALLISON MOLLENKAMP

My Perspective

Of Greenbelt and Whiteness: The Context of Racism

by Susan Taylor

Greenbelt’s founders had the intention to provide work relief and affordable housing in a safe, green place to folks who were struggling during the Great Depression. And, that founding took place in a legally segregated specific place and time. Almost 100 years ago, the founding of our city continues to influence how we live together today.

While folks of many colors worked on the building of our city, only white, heterosexual, married couples with an employed male were allowed to apply for residency. Greenbelt was segregated from the beginning by race, by sexuality, by gendered roles and with a religious quota system, all justified by the laws of Prince George’s County and the State of Maryland.

Yes, Greenbelt grew through an ethic of cooperation (we still see some of this today – our newspaper, our grocery store, etc.), but only people of certain identities (acceptable to the status quo) could participate in the early years.

I suggest that an acknowledgment of how our present city grew is necessary to care for our present community. We need an honest curiosity about how this unjust reality shapes us in both visible and invisible ways.

We know that race is not a biological category. It is a social construct, a classification system created to justify dominance and inequality, by people who wanted to grab and hold power, and benefit from it. This construct of race shapes our identities and our interactions with one another to this day. Racism, itself, isn’t

like murder; racism isn’t an act committed by an individual (although there are many horrific acts, including murder, perpetrated because of racism). Racism is not the thoughts and actions of individuals. Racism is a system, the social context in which we all exist, together.

White folks in the U.S. (and I am one) do not have a lot of practice thinking of themselves in terms of racial identity. The idea that race exists only outside of whiteness creates the invisibility of white supremacy. For example, some white folks speak of “inclusion” as a positive. Have you ever wondered about what that means? Including whom into what? Inclusion implies an inside and an outside.

White folks do not generally feel race. “I don’t have a race,” is privilege. Not having to think about race and our racialized social context is privilege. Choosing to, or not to, practice thinking and talking about race is privilege. I admit that sometimes I feel I have the energy to choose to engage, and other times I do not. That is privilege. I don’t like it about myself, but it’s true. Maybe if you are a white person, this is true for you, too. However, like any skill, learning to be aware of white privilege can be built through effort and intention.

One way we can learn to recognize the context of white privilege and white supremacy (the system, not people dressed in white robes) is to make some of what has been invisible visible.

Open your mind’s eye and imagine whom you see when you think of the characters in books.

Whom did your childhood toys look like? Who comes into your mind when you imagine a leader? A god? A wise person? A doctor? A rich person? A poor person? A safe person? A dangerous person? What was it like to grow up in the body you have? To move around the world in your skin tone?

If we ask ourselves these kinds of questions, we can begin to recognize the invisible parts of the racist system in which we all live, in Greenbelt, and globally. Let us become curious about the ways in which the melanin in our skin opens or closes doors. How willing can I be, as a white person, to work past the guilt, shame and blame of moving through the world with privilege? And, you?

Very few white folks have much practice thinking of themselves in terms of their complex intersectional identities. I believe we can grow those skills. Maybe it’s time to practice. We can choose to become curious, aware and conscious of living in the world, in our community.

Together.

Greenbelt historical resources are available on the Greenbelt Museum website, greenbeltmuseum.org, under Resources.



Send Us Your High Resolution Photos!

The News Review encourages readers to send in photos of Greenbelt landmarks, activities and the changing seasons. Photos should be at least 300 dpi, and must include the name of the photographer and a caption. The caption must name any identifiable people in the photo, as well as explain the picture.

If you are sending photos from your phone, please choose the option to send "actual size", or upload the photos to your computer first and then email the photos at full size. Send photos to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.





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AND
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A MASK

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301-681-6636
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Cars / Truck Auction
Sept 22, 2020 – Oct. 6 , 2020 10 am
4EJP Morgan Court
Waldorf Md, 20601
2004 Ford F250
1FTNW21L44EC88672
2007 JETTA VW
3VWEF71K87M151721
1971 VW Beetle
1113026543

16th Annual



St. Hugh Catholic Church
Saturday, October 10
12 pm – While Supplies Last
Pork Roast Chicken
Nurnberger Sausage Bratwurst
Sauerkraut Red Cabbage
German Potato Salad Gulasch Soup
CARRY-OUT ONLY

SUPPORT & APPRECIATION RALLY
for Greenbelt's Police & First Responders
Sat. Oct. 10, 11 am to 1 pm
front of Municipal bldg.
Working Together for a safe and just Greenbelt

MOECHELLA continued from page 1

petition identifying the severe lack and need for recreational spaces and facilities in Greenbelt West. Greenbelt Mayor Colin Byrd reiterated his commitment to getting a “city park” in Franklin Park. He also returned to the theme of Fair and Just Policing and broadening representation of under-represented groups. “Justice will rule in Greenbelt as long as I’m mayor,” he intoned, and concluded his remarks with a quote from Frederick Douglass: “I will unite with anybody to do right.”

State Delegate Nicole Williams reminded attendees that each person counted in the 2020 Census represents \$18,000 in services to the community and increased representation in Congress.

The emcee, Yaddiya, also known as Justin Johnson, described this go-go event as the intersection between culture and politics. “Go-go takes the political and puts it into layman’s terms. It updates politics to the disenfranchised.” As he returned to his emceeing duties he quipped, “Never think that you’re too small.”

Local and Beltway Plaza vendors added to the party-with-a-purpose activities. Jodeem African Cuisine provided mini-meals of rice and chicken, Bun Café provided cinnamon buns, Beltway Hardware provided a buy one, get one free (BOGO) coupon for keys and Strib’ble Treats Homemade Sweets’ cookies beckoned from the tables – all gratis.

Every lyric from TOB’s playlist was reworked to include the importance of voting. The beat even had Greenbelt’s finest



Mayor Colin Byrd and Justin “Yaddiya” Johnson ride a flatbed truck through Franklin Park to kick off Moechella.

nodding their heads and tapping their toes. And as the band played Bill Withers’s A Lovely

Day, it felt like there would be many more lovely days in Greenbelt.

ACE To Hold Grant-Writing Workshop for School Projects

by Jon Gardner

There will be an online grant-writing workshop on Thursday, October 8 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The instructor will be Councilmember Emmett Jordan. The workshop is free and open to the public.

The workshop is sponsored by Greenbelt’s Advisory Committee on Education (ACE), which offers a grant-to-schools program. ACE grants are available to teachers or PTSA members at the six ACE core schools: Greenbelt Elementary, Springhill Lake Elementary, Magnolia Elementary, Dora Kennedy French Immersion, Greenbelt Middle and Eleanor Roosevelt High School. The due date for applying for ACE grants is Tuesday, November 10.

Successful grant proposal writing is a process that requires a strategic and systematic approach. This workshop will provide an overview of that process and offer some insight into effective grant development techniques. Topics will include: how to turn ideas into successful grant proposals, what to include in a grant

proposal, and identifying and researching potential funding sources. The workshop will emphasize the importance of following the instructions and including an accurate budget.

Jordan has extensive experience with grants. He has designed and implemented successful marketing, communication and fundraising programs for educational, health care, cultural and social service organizations for more than 25 years. He has worked with nonprofit associations, businesses, universities and government agencies on grant writing and other fundraising activities.

For information about ACE grants see: greenbeltmd.gov/government/boards-committees/advisory-committee-on-education/ace-grant-program. Those attending the workshop are encouraged to bring their ideas about the grants they would like to write. To participate in the online workshop, email greenbeltacegrants@gmail.com to request the meeting link.



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www.GreenbeltNewsReview.com



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- Fall Flavors Abound
- Vast Beer & Wine Selection
- Hot & Cold Deli Meals
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Flu Shots Available

City Council Split on Divider Removal but OKs Cameras

by Allison Mollenkamp

Among other issues discussed at its September 14 regular meeting, the Greenbelt City Council discussed bench dividers and apartment security. It voted down a motion to remove dividers from city benches but approved a motion to beef up security at Greenbelt apartment complexes.

The bench divider motion was put forward by Mayor Colin Byrd. Byrd said he's gotten complaints about the dividers, which were put in place to prevent homeless people from sleeping on the benches. "This is not something that is common for cities to do. It's just really not common," Byrd said. "And I think for a number of the people that I've talked with it really sends a hostile message to some of the most vulnerable people in society."

Some councilmembers disagreed with Byrd that dividers are uncommon, saying that dividers are widespread in Washington and Baltimore. Councilmember Silke Pope said the bench dividers were a last resort after the city tried having social service workers speak with a homeless person who was sleeping on a bench and reportedly scaring children.

"In a way it was a sad ending to this, but on the other hand it probably was good," Pope said. "The person finally got the help that they really needed, so desperately needed."

Councilmember Rodney Roberts put forward his belief that having dividers on just a few benches was unfair and the dividers should either be removed entirely or placed on all city benches. There did not seem to be support for adding dividers to other benches.

The motion failed, three to four.

Security Cameras

Byrd also put forward a motion to create an ordinance that would require some apartment complexes to conduct security surveys and install security cameras. Some complexes, he said, are not investing enough in their own security. The initial motion would apply to complexes in police beats with 30 or more annual violent crimes.

Pope suggested that the language be changed to lower the number of crimes to 15 and from "violent" to "serious." Councilmember Judith Davis questioned the city's ability to force complexes to install cameras and wondered if such a requirement would cause complexes to raise rents. City Solicitor Todd Pounds said requiring cameras is well within the city's power. Multiple councilmembers raised the issue of crime in shopping centers.

The motion carried and legislation will be submitted to the Public Safety Advisory Committee.

Other Business

Electric vehicle charging stations have been installed at Schrom Hills Park by Pepco. Two more, currently in the permitting stage, are expected to be installed at Springhill Lake Recreation Center.

Amanda Jennings read comments on a petition in support of the Fair and Just Policing Act. She said the petition includes 110 signatures of Greenbelt residents. The act was submitted by Byrd earlier this year.

The next regular council meeting will be held on Monday, October 12.

Allison Mollenkamp is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism writing for the News Review.



PHOTO BY JILL CONNOR

Bench dividers were installed on benches such as this one near the Municipal building to prevent homeless people from sleeping on them.

Business

The News Review invites Greenbelt businesses to submit brief announcements for the business column. Tell us about events such as new employees, anniversaries, awards won, new programs, and other newsworthy items. Send brief (40-50 words) items to editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

Beltway Plaza Hardware Has Everything, Is Woman-Owned

by René Sewell-Rayson

Walking through Beltway Plaza, the usual assortment of retailers lines the walkways: clothing stores, shoe stores and a hardware store. Stop! Rewind the tape. A hardware store in a mall? As unlikely as that seems, it has been a tenant for 52 years and is a reminder of the hardware store where you went to browse as much to buy.

Beltway Plaza Hardware is not a new phenomenon. Barry Blechman saw the possibility back in 1968 when he pitched the idea to Beltway Plaza management. He had managed fashion and sporting goods enterprises. Hardware was next on his horizon.

Current owner Alejandra "Ally" Ramirez is proud to recount the history. "My mom worked at the buffet in the mall and Blechman put up a Help Wanted sign." Ramirez's mother saw it and went to talk to him. She had two teens at home, a son and daughter, each with different strengths. If Blechman wanted someone to stock, son Pedro was hardworking with the muscle. If he wanted a social one, the daughter would fit the bill. Ramirez laughs and says, "that meant that I talked a lot." Blechman initially hired Ally and then her brother.

For Ramirez it was more than just an after-school job. "My mom Olinda fixed stuff around our house. I am a quick study and soon learned my way around and how to help people with their projects."

The small footprint of the hardware store does not do justice to the number of goods located in the space. Every nook and cranny are filled with something a shopper has forgotten that they needed. The missing thing-a-ma-jig may be found in one of the boxes of loose screws, and bolts, touch-up paint, drawer pulls and grocery carts compete for space.

Three years ago, as Blechman was entering his eighth decade, Ramirez decided to buy the business. She had been working there for 15 years and it just seemed like a natural transition.

Like many small businesses, the hardware store has to compete with online shopping. Ramirez counters that phenomenon with personalized customer service. "Many of our customers are repeat business. They can browse the aisles or staff can



PHOTO BY RENÉ SEWELL-RAYSON

Alejandra Ramirez, owner of Beltway Plaza Hardware

direct them to what they are looking for."

A nod to modernity is that everything is computerized. "Staff takes inventory twice per week where shrinkage is logged." Shrinkage is a retail term for customers walking out with unpaid merchandise. "Yeah, it's a problem. It affects our bottom line for sure," and she hunches her shoulders, resigned but undeterred.

Ramirez attends tradeshows to keep up with the industry, move inventory that isn't meeting the customers' needs and to add new and interesting products.

What has been in high demand during COVID-19? She chuckles and points to the key kiosk. They have an older machine that cuts keys very precisely and they can provide security keys for cars.

Asked to reflect on the hardware's health during the four-month shuttering of the mall early in the pandemic, she replied, "We applied for the Paycheck Protection Program and we were approved." She sighs deeply as she adds, "but, the program ran out of money two days before the hardware store was scheduled to get their award."

She observes that what makes the hardware store location in the mall work is that, "we are all small business owners, woman-owned, minority-owned. That makes us so unique. Communication between owners [mall owners] is good. Management works with the vendors to cooperatively advertise and sponsor events. We'll get through this [the pandemic] and continue to serve the community."

25 Years

NEW DEAL

Greenbelt, MD

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY 1995 - 2020

THANK YOU!

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for the support of our sponsor Beltway Plaza, donors, and bidders in Greenbelt (and beyond) in response to our *Let's Make a New Deal* fundraising auction. We finished just short of our \$15,000 goal. While we were very successful in this effort, we still must depend on continued donations to stay alive during these times.

Please donate at www.newdealcafe.com

Cars / Truck Auction

Sept 22, 2020 – Oct. 6, 2020 10 am

4EJP Morgan Court
Waldorf Md, 20601

2005 Toyota Camry
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- Smoke and Nicotine testing
- Complete Water analysis & Legionella
- Silica testing
- Legal Support

info@esi4u.com | (410)-867-6262 | www.esi4u.com

Our Perspective

News Review Plows Onward
Through Good Times & Bad

by Cathie Meetre

This summer has seen a number of departures from the News Review. We'd like to thank each of them for their service and wish them well as they go on to other challenges. Ray Zammuto, who had been on the board and was our treasurer, resigned in July. He had given us sterling service in the last three years, first helping us to sort out our delivery process, setting up delivery boxes and then doing much of the work on deliveries himself before handing off a working system to his successor. As treasurer, he brought wisdom to our investments and profitability and was instrumental in analyzing and documenting our inner workings. His third responsibility was to be the purchaser of snacks and soft drinks – a role in which he was an unparalleled success. While his skills in money management inspired awe, it is for the candy that he will be most fondly remembered.

Also leaving us this summer is Karen Yoho, who has served for the last few years as circulation manager. She brought an orderly, calm and cheerful demeanor to the role and shepherded her flock

of carriers through rain and shine.

A longtime member who has also gone on to other things is Bernie Gormally, the official late-night typist who was always there to put the paper to bed on Tuesday nights. Many times, she was still at the newsroom into the wee small hours, even though she had to get up for work at 6 the next morning. Bernie worked for us for 14 years and the newsroom won't be the same without her. She also kept the office straight and tidy, which, after the frenetic activity every Tuesday evening, was no mean feat. Calm and careful, Bernie was a reassuring presence.

Cindy Cummings had served the newspaper as subscriptions manager for several years – keeping track of Greenbelters who, though far-flung, looked forward to each weeks' issue in their mailbox. We thank Cindy for her service and are delighted that Melanie Gaschick has joined us to help us get the paper out to faraway places.

A shorter term but much appreciated member is Maya

See DEPARTURES, page 11

DOG PARK continued from page 1

veterinarian that each dog is healthy.

The other elements of the council's vote were: that the new rules be posted inside and outside the Park and presented to and signed by applicants (Greenbelt Police Captain Gordon Pracht provided the posted rules and Councilmember Judith Davis provided the set for applications) and to keep the Park unlocked until a consensus on a security system is reached. Compliance will be monitored by park rangers and city police for the time being.

Staff recommended a cipher lock system that is inexpensive and easy to use. A permit would include the code to be used for the year. Police Chief Richard Bowers said that it would be possible to exit the park without the code, thus avoiding being locked in during an emergency situation. The idea of using a swipe card system was discussed. Yet, this would cost in the range of \$6,900. As well, Nelly Ortiz said that since people often find a way to circumvent a system, investing in a costly system would be ill-advised. Pracht recommended using LS Systems who have provided technology to police and municipal facilities, thus resulting in a compatible system with the Park as well. Council was amenable to this.

Councilmember Silke Pope said that there had been misuse of the Park, especially at night, where organized dog fights have been known to occur. She said that many people had indicated that they desired controlled access to the Park to prevent this.

The new city fee structure was a major topic of discussion at the worksession. City staff recommended the \$10 and \$30, based on council feedback and on a survey of surrounding dog parks. Pope, Davis and Councilmember

Leta Mach felt that this was a reasonable and nominal fee that would engender responsible use of the Park, allowing for guaranteed compliance with proper vaccinations, ensuring safety for all.

Mayor Colin Byrd and Councilmember Rodney Roberts were in favor of continuing no fee for use, feeling that the fee was not necessary to ensure the required documentation. Roberts felt that residents are already paying taxes and that the fee would provide little toward the maintenance and running of the Park.

Resident Carol Johnson urged that the Park reopen immediately, feeling that there should be no fee, as some may not be able to afford it, and that controlled access was too cumbersome. Bowers said he was open to addressing a financial hardship, but that there was no specific procedure in place.

Director of Planning and Community Development Terri Hruby reminded the council that, in regard to possibly enlarging the Park, the site was already maximized to its full extent and the adjoining land does not belong to the city.

Councilmember Edward Putens pointed out that Greenbelt was the first municipality in the county to have a dog park, something for which he was proud. The council was eager to finally reopen the Park as soon as possible in a way that created a safe and enjoyable environment. The final vote was 4 to 3 for the new fee structure, revised rules and open doors to the park: Davis, Pope, Mach and Councilmember Emmett Jordan in favor; Putens, Roberts and Byrd against.

Residents can refer to the city website (greenbeltmd.gov/Home/Components/FacilityDirectory/FacilityDirectory/16/35) for full information on the dog park.

Police Blotter

Based on information released by the Greenbelt Police Department, www.greenbeltmd.gov/police
Dates and times are those when police were first contacted about incidents.

Theft

On September 19, at 99 Centerway, a victim advised that she was at the skate park when she was approached by the suspect, who allegedly made several inappropriate remarks to her. The victim then left the area with her friends, leaving her sweatshirt containing her wallet. When she returned to the park a short time later her wallet had been taken. The suspect is described as a black male, 16 to 21 years of age, 6' 2", 150 pounds, with hair in dreads, wearing a gray and black hooded sweatshirt, camouflage pants and black shoes.

Reckless Endangerment

On September 17, at 9003 Breezewood Terrace, officers responded to a report of the sound of gunshots. There were no reports of injuries, but several spent shell casings were located. There is no suspect information.

Burglary

On September 19, at 7819 Mandan Road, unknown person(s) used unknown means to enter the residence. The residence had been rummaged through, but nothing appeared to be missing. There were no signs of forced entry.

Assault Arrest

On September 23, in the 5700 block Cherrywood Lane, a 41-year-old nonresident was arrested and charged with First Degree Assault and Second Degree

Assault after the suspect allegedly stabbed another subject with a knife during a fight. The victim was transported to a local hospital for treatment. The suspect was transported to the Department of Corrections for a hearing before a District Commissioner.

Vehicle Crime

On September 17, at 9108 Edmonston Road, a Maryland temporary tag, 844562Z, was taken from a vehicle. At 6100 Breezewood Drive, a blue 2000 Chrysler Grand Voyager, Maryland tags 7DG0535, was stolen. In the 6100 block of Breezewood Court, unknown person(s) broke out the front passenger window of a vehicle. At 9112 Edmonston Road, a 2003 Ford Econoline van, reported stolen to the Laurel City Police Department was recovered; no arrests.

On September 18, at 9109 Springhill Lane, 6220 Breezewood Drive and 9140 Edmonston Court, unknown person(s) broke out the driver's windows and removed the handicap placards from three vehicles. At 6218 Breezewood Court, unknown person(s) broke out the left rear window and removed money. At 6218 Breezewood Drive, unknown person(s) used a rock to damage the door of a vehicle. At 9164 and 9144 Edmonston Road, unknown person(s) broke out the rear and front passenger win-

dow, respectively, and rummaged through the vehicles. Nothing appears to have been taken. At 9125 Springhill Lane, unknown person(s) punched out several door locks on a van.

On September 20, at 8005 Lakecrest Drive, four tires and rims were taken from a vehicle. In the 100 block of Greenhill Road, an iPod Nano was taken from an unlocked vehicle.

On September 21, at 5827 Cherrywood Terrace, unknown person(s) used a rock to break out the front passenger window and remove money. At 6239 Springhill Court, unknown person(s) used a rock to break out the driver's window and removed Air Pod earphones. At 9144 Edmonston Road, unknown person(s) broke out the driver's window and removed construction tools. At 5913 Cherrywood Lane, unknown person(s) used a rock to break out the driver's window and removed a driver's license and a credit card.

On September 22, at 5827 Cherrywood Lane, unknown person(s) used an unknown object to attempt to force open the driver's door, damaging the door in the process. At 7730 Hanover Parkway, unknown person(s) used an unknown tool to puncture a hole in the passenger window of one vehicle and the driver's window of another.

The Department is offering a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a suspect in any of the unsolved crimes reported in the blotter.

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BOXED: \$10 column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$15). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

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Armory Handover Not Imminent: Issues Must be Resolved First

by Diane Oberg



PHOTO BY AMANDA LARSEN

The Armory on Greenbelt Road has been deeded to the city.

At the Tuesday, September 8, special meeting of the Greenbelt City Council, City Solicitor Todd Pounds reported that the state government has agreed to deed the Greenbelt Armory property to the city. There is not yet an estimated date for the handover of the property. And, it appears that there are several issues that will need to be resolved prior to the handover.

According to City Manager Nicole Ard, council has not developed any specific plans for the property. Among the possible uses that have been mentioned are a new fire station, city equipment storage, offices and housing.

A recent report that the state was attempting to relinquish the property, Ard said, was a surprise to the city. As Councilmember Judith Davis raised at the special meeting, it is not yet known what chemicals or hazardous materials may be present and need to be removed or mitigated. Ard said that “ideally, any hazardous items would be remediated or removed prior to the deed’s transfer to the city.” She said that “the city will need environmental specialists and engineers to help identify and plan for the removal and actual remediation of any hazardous materials.”

Dedication

According to a story in the October 27, 1955, issue of this newspaper (see archive.org/details/GNR1955102701), the building was dedicated on October 29, 1955. It won praise for its “handsome redbrick and

limestone exteriors” and “add[ed] another distinctive landmark” in the city. At that time, the building contained a large room used as a drill hall, auditorium and basketball court; three lounges, a “standard indoor rifle range,” classrooms, locker rooms and offices, plus 20 garages behind the main building.

According to that article, the armory had its origins in a conversation between former Greenbelter Frank Reilly, adjutant of the Greenbelt American Legion Post 136, and General Milton Reckord, the commanding officer of the Maryland National Guard, at a parade in New York City. Reilly “jocularly asked the general when he was going to build an armory in Greenbelt.” Reckord said he would “see to the building of the armory if Greenbelt would form a National Guard Unit.”

The armory was to be manned by the 4th Field Artillery Battery, which had 10 trucks, three trailers, three 105-mm howitzers, a full complement of carbines and M1 rifles and over \$10,000 of radio equipment.

In addition to its use by the Guard, the armory was intended to be used by city residents. Reckord said he wanted and intended to offer the armory with all its facilities to the residents of Greenbelt for whatever uses they may have in mind. While the howitzers are no longer here, the building may, perhaps, once again serve the residents of the city.

DEPARTURES continued from page 9

Robinson who quietly but efficiently helped us with the incoming email and with posting the newspaper to the web every Thursday morning. One of a rotating team of three in this role, she was completely reliable and a pleasure to work with. We wish her well. New member Rahul Mehta is now up to speed in her place and is in the process of fixing some of the problems on our website. Welcome Rahul.

Membership

We have been working hard, making sure our member list is up to date. It has over 75 people who are involved with the newspaper. Some are more active than others and some play only a cameo role when something specific needs to be fixed. But it is reassuring that our city’s community newspaper is still attracting the services of so many talented people. Our thanks to all.

Looking back at the newspapers of 1970 – now 50 years ago – it is striking that there are only 21 names on the masthead. The typical paper of the ’70s was four or eight pages and sometimes one of them was a full-page house ad (i.e., there wasn’t enough copy or advertising to fill four pages), whereas today we are typically at 12 or 16 pages – though COVID-19 has resulted in a couple of

eight-pagers. That’s a lot more copy to edit and corral, and a lot more advertising to handle.

At various times in its past, the newspaper has come close to dissolving from lack of membership but that is not the case today. One issue from the early ’60s announces briskly that if someone else doesn’t show up to help the following week, this will be the last newspaper. Apparently, someone showed.

Keep On Truckin’

At a time when many community newspapers have folded, the Greenbelt News Review remains a force for the city. Today we are in uncertain times because of COVID-19 and we at the News Review are as much affected as others. Most work is now done remotely and it is saddening that the easy camaraderie and social interaction of the newsroom is missing from our lives. We are looking forward to its return but the safety of our members is the first priority.

We will be in touch with all our members over the next several weeks leading up to the annual meeting on Sunday, October 18 at 3 p.m. – which, like almost everything else these days, will be virtual.

PHOTO BY LETTY WILSON BONNELL

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Estate Sale GHI 2 Bedroom townhome with hardwood floors, opened kitchen & breakfast bar. Large fenced backyard opens onto protected woodlands.

Brick Townhome with Addition Full bath on main level. Remodeled kitchen & bath. Central A/C, refinished hardwood flrs., shaded & fenced backyard.

Large floorplan w/addition Half bath on main level. Masonry townhome w/ fenced backard & brick patio. Zoned HVAC system, 11' x 17' master br.

Cape Cod SFH 3br 2 1/2ba home with rem. Kitchen, above-ground pool & wrap-around deck. Finished basement with family room and office space.

Townhome with 2 additions 2 bedroom GHI home on fenced corner lot. Large fenced back yard, extra storage in front. Central HVAC.

4 Bedroom 3 Level Townhome Master bedroom & full bath on main level. Opened remodeled kitchen, fireplace in lr. Backs to protected woodlands.

Townhome with addition 2 br townhome w/ front laundry/office addition. Opened kitchen, full bath, pantry. Fenced backyard with large deck.

Charlestowne Village Single-level 1-br condo in Greenbelt - no stairs! Parquet flooring throughout. Remodeled kit. With S/S appliances. \$149,900

Addition - Backs to Woodlands Completely remodeled throughout; half bath on main level. Central A/C system. Fenced yard, shed & raised deck.

Brick Townhome 2 Bedroom GHI townhome remodeled throughout. Modern kitchen with s/s dishwasher. Hardwood both levels. \$169,900

Upper Level One Bedroom GHI home with full-sized washer and dryer in separate laundry room. Refinished hardwood flooring throughout. Nice!

2 BR Townhome Remodeled GHI home w/ new carpet fresh paint & ceramic bath. Priced to sell at \$124,900

Your Greenbelt Specialists In Roosevelt Center

Greenbelt Recreation ARTS Hosts Open Studio Tours

by Nicole DeWald

The Greenbelt Recreation ARTS program will sponsor a Virtual Open Studio Tour on Sunday, October 4 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. Guests are invited to chat with Greenbelt-affiliated visual artists during 10- to 15-minute studio visits taking place live on Instagram. Participating artists include seven of the Community Center’s artists in residence: Karen Arrington (pottery), Chris Corson (ceramic sculpture), Rachel Cross (mixed media), Gina Denn (pottery and ceramic sculpture), Mary Gawlik (ceramic art tile), Kathy Karlson (painting) and Racquel Keller (painting and mixed media). Additional community artists participating include: Kemlyn Brazda (collage and painting), Barbara JoAnn Combs (painting and printmaking) and Monica Lathan-Dye (painting and photography). Several artists are offering online shopping opportunities and some also accept commissions.

The complete schedule is posted on the Greenbelt Virtual Recreation Center: greenbeltnmd.gov/recreation. To participate, guests will need an Instagram account, available for free at [instagram.com](https://www.instagram.com).

The host artists’ presentations will illuminate various aspects of the creative process. For starters, guests can enjoy insights into the artists’ inspiration and driving sense of purpose. Corson has been creating new figurative sculptures speaking to social injustice and reflecting on the legacy of the civil rights movement. Other artists have been creating work that is restorative of our connection with the natural environment, including Brazda, focused on fauna, and Cross, focused on Maryland wildlife in a recent series of paintings and sculptures. Combs has been creating new work inspired by the landscapes of memory – in particular, her experience of living in Hawaii.

For some creators, a planning stage bridges inspiration with execution. Arrington will discuss the role of sketching in the development of new design ideas for her lines of pottery. Keller is currently planning a very large woodcut, reflecting on the work of the painter Hieronymus Bosch through the lens of COVID-19. Karlson’s pre-recorded studio visit offers an interesting counterpoint, with examples of a more directly intuitive working process.

Participating artists Gawlik and Brazda are looking forward to introducing guests to some of their techniques. Gawlik may offer a demonstration of “sgraffito,” a process in which designs are created on a ceramic tile by scratching through a layer of contrasting color. Brazda is interested in sharing a multimedia approach she has been developing this year, moving from acrylic painting, to monoprint, to collage. The process, she notes, “has given me a chance to play and be a little messy with a purpose.”

An artistic journey, like a life journey, often involves reflection and transitions. For Lathan-Dye, the pandemic has been a time of retrospective contemplation. She invites the viewers to join her in a look back at her existing



Monica Lathan-Dye



Racquel Keller



Kemlyn Brazda



Chris Corson



Kathy Karlson

work as she strides toward her next creative chapter, including nature-inspired photography and graphic arts.

The Virtual Open Studio Tour is one of several ways that Greenbelt Recreation ARTS is striving to support a vibrant and mutually-enriching creative community during the pandemic. Cross comments, “It has been great to connect via Zoom with other artists, with students as an arts instructor and with the Greenbelt Recreation Arts staff to brainstorm ideas for events, classes, instructional videos and new technology.”

For more information about the Open StudioTour, email ndewald@greenbeltnmd.gov. For information about additional fall arts programs, visit the Virtual Recreation Center at greenbeltnmd.gov/recreation. Arts programs of the City of Greenbelt are supported in part by the Maryland State Arts Council.



Co-op Solar Construction Starts; First Watts Hoped End of Oct

by Julia Arbutus

The Greenbelt Co-op Supermarket and Pharmacy is only one month away from ushering in a new era of clean energy in the community.

Construction for the Co-op rooftop solar array began last week after funding delays due to the coronavirus pandemic that pushed the project’s completion date out by months. The roughly 15,000 square foot array was originally planned for completion in March of this year after the Co-op’s new roof was installed by Adelphia Construction in January.

The project, called Rays on the Roof, began two years ago, when the Co-op’s roof was already several years past its expected lifetime. After rainstorms, water would leak through the roof and into the store. Steve Skolnik, Rays on the Roof volunteer project manager and master electrician, described the roof after a rainstorm as a “lake.”

“We had to fix the roof before we did the solar,” he said. “It’s really two projects in one.”

Sustainable Energy Systems, a renewable energy design and installation company out of Frederick, is installing the array, which is expected to offset about 20 percent of the Co-op’s energy costs. The environmental impact of the array is also considerable, as solar energy provides a sustainable form of electricity without polluting the air.

“I take pride in reducing the carbon footprint of this building and Greenbelt, and I take pride in helping the Co-op survive,” Skolnik said.

Interconnection Concern

Rays on the Roof has faced considerable bureaucratic challenges over the past two years since its inception, but the only one that remains is interconnection, the process of connecting the solar array to Pepco’s electric grid.

To do this, the Co-op needs to turn off its power for the duration of the interconnection. This presents a particular issue, something Cathie Meetre, who was an early supporter of the solar project, calls the “fridge problem”: The Co-op’s refrigerated inventory can survive about four hours before food is required to be thrown out. While Pepco has said that

interconnection can be completed within those four hours, there is no way of knowing for sure until it happens.

“It’s tough luck if it doesn’t go right,” Meetre said.

The loss of inventory most likely would not be covered under the Co-op’s insurance since the supermarket is choosing to turn off the power.

Loan Repayment

Rays on the Roof is funded by a combination of loans, donations and a grant from the state. Loans are expected to be paid back over 10 periods, starting in September 2022 and ending in 2031. The state grant does not need to be repaid.

Bill Jones, the Co-op treasurer, said that he spoke with 112 people about their loans and the Co-op’s repayment schedule in order to make sure yearly payments were fairly even. The idea, he said, is to pay back the loans from the Co-op’s savings and from the Solar Renewable Energy Certificates (SRECs) the Co-op will receive from generating solar power. The Co-op will get one SREC for every 1,000-kilowatt hours produced by the array, which can then be sold to electricity generating companies that need SRECs to meet state renewable energy requirements.

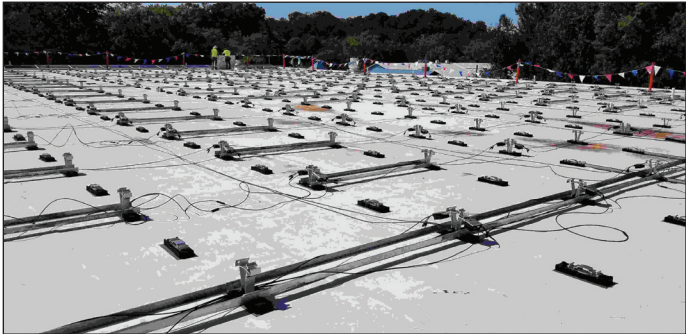
Interest payments on the loans began this year. Jones noted that several people loaned a sum of money and then made a donation to the fund approximately equal to the interest the Co-op would have to pay on it, effectively making it an interest-free loan.

The \$350,000 grant from the Maryland Department of General Services (DGS) Capital Grants Project was awarded to the Co-op earlier this year, but there are still a few more steps before the Co-op can use the money (though work has already started in anticipation of its availability), said Dorrie Bates, Greenbelt resident and former Co-op board chair. Bates, who helped the supermarket win the grant and manages the project’s interactions with the state government, is optimistic that DGS will approve the release of funds in the next few weeks.

Julia Arbutus is a University of Maryland graduate student in journalism writing for the News Review.



A pristine roof and solar. What more can a Co-op's heart desire?



The framework for the solar panels covers the Co-op roof.

- Photos by Steve Skolnik.